

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/711,497

Applicant(s)

FAN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Nitin Patel

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/22/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

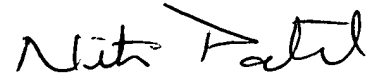
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


NITIN I. PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-17 is allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reason for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach or suggest an apparatus for a setting unit to configure ID to at least two displays, comprising: at least a first switch and a second switch, the first switch comprising an input terminal, an output terminal and a control terminal, and the second switch comprising an input terminal and a control terminal, wherein the input terminal of the first switch is electrically coupled to a communication interface transmission terminal of the setting unit, and the output terminal of the first switch is electrically coupled to the input terminal of the second switch, wherein the control terminals of the first and second switches are adapted for receiving an control signal from the displays, and are turned on or turned off after said switch receives signal sent from the control terminal of the display; first transmission line, electrically coupled to the input terminal of the first switch, the receiving terminals of the display and a transmission terminal of the setting unit; second transmission lines, electrically coupled to the output terminal of the first switch and the input terminal of the second switch and receiving terminals of the display; and third transmission lines, electrically coupled to the transmission terminals of the displays and a communication interface receiving terminal of the setting unit as claimed in claim 1.

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a system for configuring a display ID, comprising: a setting unit, comprising a transmission terminal and a receiving terminal; at least two displays, each display comprising a control terminal, a microprocessor and

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a communication interface having a transmission terminal and a receiving terminal, wherein the microprocessor is electrically coupled to the transmission terminal, the receiving terminal, the control terminal, and a memory; at least two switches, for accepting a control signal from the displays, and being turned on or turned off by receiving the control signal; first transmission lines, electrically coupled to the input terminal of the first switch, the receiving terminals of the display and a transmission terminal of the setting unit; second transmission lines, electrically coupled to the output terminal of the first switch and the input terminal of the second switch and receiving terminals of the display; and third transmission lines, electrically coupled to the transmission terminals of the displays and a receiving terminal of the setting unit as claimed in claim 5.

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a system for configuring a display ID, comprising: a setting unit; a plurality of displays, electrically coupled to the setting unit; and a plurality of switches, configured in between the setting unit and the displays, each of the switches corresponding to one of the displays, and being turned on or turned off by its corresponding display, wherein when the setting unit issues a setting ID instruction, each of the switches is turned on by its corresponding display, and then the setting unit issues a plurality of identification configuration instructions, and wherein by sequentially turning off each of the switches, the corresponding ID of the corresponding display is configured by each of the ID configuration instructions as claimed in claim 10.

The prior art fails to teach or suggest a method for configuring a display ID using an apparatus, the apparatus comprising at least a setting unit, a first display, a second

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display, a first switch and a second switch, the first display is electrically coupled to the setting unit, and the second display is electrically coupled to the setting unit via the first switch, and the method comprising: turning on all switches; all microprocessors receiving setting ID instruction from the setting unit; all displays changing to ID setting mode and controlling all switches turn off; first display receiving first ID information from the setting unit; first ID microprocessor storing the ID in a memory of the first display; first microprocessor quitting the ID setting mode and backing to normal operation mode; second display receiving second ID information from the setting unit; second ID microprocessor storing the ID in a memory of the second display as claimed in claim 16.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-7677.

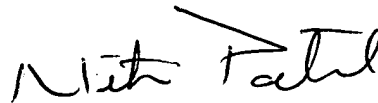
The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin H. Shalwala can be reached on 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nitin Patel
Primary Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nitin Patel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

NITIN I. PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER